

California State Fire Marshal CODE INTERPRETATION

Date Issued	09-04-03	Interpretation #	03-024
Topic	Adult Day Care & Adult Day Health Centers (Group E, Division 3)		
Code Section(s)	§305, California Building Code (2001 ed)		
Requested by	Thomas Harvey San Francisco Fire Department 698 Second Street San Francisco, CA 94107		

Are non-ambulatory clients permitted in Adult Day Care facilities classified as an E-3 and, if not, what section of the CBC prohibits the non-ambulatory person?

Adult Day Care and Adult Day Health Centers are licensed by the Department of Social Services to provide less than 24-hour client care. A client's ambulatory status does not restrict placement in these facilities and is of no relevance in Adult Day Care and Adult Day Health Centers (Group E, Division 3 occupancies). As the code is silent regarding the ambulatory status of the occupants, proper code application dictates that a specific act is permitted unless otherwise prohibited by law or regulation. A similarity can be made to the Group E, Division 1 occupancy (school) where ambulatory status does not affect the occupancy classification as well as the ultimate fire protection elements incorporated in the California Building Code.